GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:479
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2016
NRHM
Shetti Shri Raju alias Devappa Anna;Sonker Smt. Neelam

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that there is acute shortage of female doctors, specialists, paramedics and other doctors under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in State hospitals, Primary Health Centres (PHCs)/ Community Health Centres (CHCs);

(b) if so, the State/UT-wise details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to meet the said shortage;

(d) the number of sanctioned posts of doctors/specialists female doctors lying vacant in rural health centres, PHCs and CHCs of the country under NRHM and the time by which the said posts are likely to be filled; and

(e) whether the cases of doctors remaining absent from the above centres have come to the notice of the Government and if so, the details thereof and the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a) & (b) As per Rural Health Statistics (RHS), there is a shortage of doctors (including female doctors) specialists, paramedics and other doctors in Primary Health Centres (PHCs)/ Community Health Centres (CHCs). State/UT-wise details as per RHS 2015 is annexed.
Various reasons attributed for shortage of doctors, specialists, paramedics and other doctors in public health facilities, particularly in rural areas include overall shortage of doctors/ specialists/ paramedics in the country, feeling of professional isolation among doctors & specialists, and unwillingness on their part to work in rural areas.

(c) & (d) Public health being a State subject, the primary responsibility to ensure availability of health human resources in public health facilities lies with the State Governments. However, under the National Health Mission (NHM), financial and technical support is provided to States/UTs to strengthen their healthcare systems including support for engagement of health human resources on contractual basis, based on the requirements posed by the States/UTs in their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs). Support is also provided to States/UTs by giving hard area allowance to health human resources for serving in rural and remote areas and for their residential quarters so that they find it attractive to serve in public health facilities in such areas. As the posts required for health facilities are filled up by respective State/UT Governments, they are impressed upon from time to time to fill up the vacant posts.
Further, in order to encourage doctors to work in remote and difficult areas, the Medical Council of India, with the previous approval of Central Government, has amended the Post Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2000 to provide:
(i) 50% reservation in Post Graduate Diploma Courses for Medical Officers in the Government service, who have served for at least three years in remote and difficult areas; and
(ii) Incentive at the rate of 10% the marks obtained for each year in service in remote or difficult areas as upto the maximum of 30% of the marks obtained in the entrance test for admissions in Post Graduate Medical Courses.
(iii) Details of sanctioned and vacant posts of doctors/specialists/paramedics are at Annexure
(e) Public health being a State subject, no such data is maintained at the central level.

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